

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

### **Council Business**

- *Recognition of Mayor Paterson* – In honor of her tenure as Mansfield's longest serving Mayor, the Town is planning a Community Reception for outgoing Mayor Betsy Paterson to be held at the Mansfield Community Center from 4:00 - 6:00 PM on Friday, December 4, 2015. This should be a fun event as we thank Mayor Paterson for her many valuable contributions to our Town. All members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend!
- *Open Space Grant Award for Meadowbrook Lane LLC Property* – Please see the communication in your Council packet (item no. 14) from Governor Malloy announcing the State's award for the Town's acquisition of the 61-acre Meadowbrook Lane LLC property on Puddin Lane. The Town Council will need to conduct a public hearing to solicit public input on the acquisition; staff will initiate that process at the November 9, 2015 meeting.

### **Announcements**

- *Red Cross Disaster Services Volunteer of the Year Award* – This past summer Southeast School teacher James Hendricks received the Connecticut and Rhode Island Red Cross *Disaster Services Volunteer of the Year Award* for his outstanding volunteer work in the area of disaster recovery. Congratulations, Mr. Hendricks, and thanks for setting a great example for your students and working so hard on behalf of our community!
- *Region 19 Budget Meeting* – Region 19 will hold its annual District/Municipal Budget Information Sharing Meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Library Media Center at E.O. Smith High School.

### **Major Projects and Initiatives**

- *Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Community Playground* – On Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00 AM, the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground will officially open with a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. The newly-built playground is located behind the Mansfield Community Center at 10 South Eagleville Road. Please join us to celebrate the beautiful playground the community worked so hard to build! The playground was constructed over the weekend of October 10 -11, 2015 by a group of volunteers that included students from E.O. Smith High School and UCONN, local parents and grandparents and contractors volunteering their time and expertise. Dog Lane Café, Starbucks, Subway, Domino's Pizza, Kellogg's, Village Springs Water and the PTO/PTAs of Mansfield's elementary and middle schools all contributed breakfast and lunch for the volunteers. T&B Motors sent their boom truck to put the finishing touches on the playground's castle. A slideshow and video of the community build will be available for viewing online in the coming days at <http://mansfieldcommunityplayground.org/>.

### **Department Reports**

- Town Manager's Office:
  - *Innovation Partnership Building Groundbreaking* – On October 14, 2015, Deputy Mayor Paul Shapiro and I attended the groundbreaking ceremony of the Innovation Partnership Building on North Hillside Road, the first building to be located in the UCONN Technology Park. Congratulations to UCONN on reaching this step in the development of the Tech Park.
  - *CCM Annual Convention* – Members of Town and three Town Councilors attended the CCM Annual Convention on October 20, 2015; I was part of a panel presentation on shared town and school district services that was well-received.
  - *2015 Health, Wellness and Open Enrollment Fair* – On October 22, 2015, the Town held its annual Health, Wellness and Open Enrollment Fair for employees and the members of its health insurance pool. Attendees were able receive a flu shot and free biometric screenings, and to interact with over 40 health and wellness vendors. I would like to thank the staff of the Eastern Highlands Health District, especially Anna Zeller and Millie Brousseau, for their excellent work in coordinating this important event.
- Building and Housing:

- *Cracking Foundations in Eastern CT* – Recently, Director of Building and Housing Mike Nintean attended a meeting with in Hartford regarding the issue of cracking foundations. Fortunately, this issue does not appear to be a significant issue in Mansfield and Mr. Nintean will continue to monitor the situation. Residents needing assistance are encouraged to contact the Department of Consumer Protection at 1-800-842-2649.
- Public Works Department:
  - *Energize Connecticut Award* – At a ceremony held on October 14, 2015, the Town of Mansfield was one of only five communities statewide to receive a Gold level award at the Energize Connecticut, Clean Energy Communities Award Ceremony. Mansfield achieved this level by being the first community in the state to earn three Bright Idea Grants; by installing exterior LED lighting, saving 50,000 kWh annually; and because of strong participation in both residential energy programs (1,558 or 27% of all homes) and business and municipal energy-saving projects (224 or 39% of all businesses). Other accomplishments noted by the state include Mansfield's success with the installation of solar PV systems at the Community Center, EO Smith High School and other municipal buildings. Deputy Mayor Paul Shapiro and Recycling Coordinator Virginia Walton represented the Town at the Awards ceremony.
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership
  - *Halloween Events* - On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership hosted Trick-or-Treating in Downtown Storrs. Twenty-six businesses participated by handing out treats to over 375 costumed children. The UConn Dairy Bar Ice Cream Truck was a big hit, handing out free tiny ice cream cones to children aged 12 (with their regular menu available for purchase). Families also enjoyed a performance by the E. O. Smith Drum Line to start the fun and a flash mob performance of "Thriller" by students from the Mansfield Academy of Dance to close out the hour. Participants were encouraged to walk over to the Mansfield Community Center for the Annual Halloween Party and Trick-a-Trunk. Photos of Trick-or-Treating in Downtown Storrs and videos of the two performances are up on the Partnership's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/MansfieldDowntownPartnership](http://www.facebook.com/MansfieldDowntownPartnership)).

### **Upcoming Events**

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – The Storrs Farmers Market is in its 21<sup>st</sup> season. The Market is open from 3:00 to 6:00PM every Saturday through November 22<sup>nd</sup> on the front lawn of the Beck Municipal Building (Town Hall). Everything sold at Storrs Farmers Market is grown or produced in Connecticut. Visit [www.storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.storrsfarmersmarket.org) for more information and to sign up for weekly emails from the Market.

**Upcoming Meetings\***

- Traffic Authority, October 27, 2015, 10:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, October 27, 2015, 1:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Climate Action Task Force, October 27, 2015, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland Wetlands Agency/Planning & Zoning Commission, November 2, 2015, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Municipal Election, November 3, 2015, 6:00 AM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee Regular Meeting, November 3, 2015, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, November 4, 2015 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board Meeting, November 5, 2015, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, November 5, 2015, 6:30 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, November 9, 2015, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

*\*Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*